

- Replace incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs.
- When washing clothes and dishes by machine, use full washer load for clothes and the air-drying cycle instead of the heat-drying cycle to dry dishes.
- Use the microwave for cooking and preparing meals, when possible.

The State Energy Office offers a more comprehensive list of conservation strategies for businesses, residences, schools and transportation at its website, <http://www.energync.net/>, or call them toll free at 1-800-662-7131.

Additional information on energy assistance for low-income residents is available at the Division of Social Services' energy website, <http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dss/energy/index.htm>, or call your local Department of Social Services office.

The Governor also warned consumers of the dangers of trying to reduce utility costs by cooking with charcoal or gas grills or warming their home with kerosene heaters. Improperly used, this equipment can produce a deadly gas or burn your house down. The Department of Health and Human Services' website offers tips on getting through the winter safely at <http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/>, or call the Care Line toll free at 1-800-662-7030.

The Department of Crime Control & Public Safety offers tips on how to prepare for severe winter storms at its website, www.nccrimecontrol.org/severeweather (then click on winter storms), or call your local or county emergency management office.

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